

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9699
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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 02174

BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, CSCE, OCON
SUBJECT: BACKGROUND PAPER ON RESULTS OF BELGRADE MEETING

REFS: (A) STATE 52056, (B) BELGRADE 1589

1. WE HAVE REVIEWED THE DRAFT PAPER ON THE BELGRADE MEETING (REF A) FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS USE.
2. IN OUR VIEW, THE US PUBLIC POSITION ON BELGRADE AND CSCE SHOULD AIM FOR SIMPLICITY, TRY TO CATCH PUBLIC ATTENTION WITH A FEW BASIC POINTS, AND LOOK TO THE FUTURE. IT SHOULD FOCUS PRIMARILY ON THE NEED FOR IMPLEMENTATION UNDER THE AGREED TERMS OF THE FINAL ACT, THE COMMITMENTS OF ALL CSCE STATES UNDER THESE TERMS TO IMPROVE THEIR PERFORMANCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND IN OTHER AREAS, AND US INTENTION TO WORK VIGOROUSLY FOR SUCH IMPROVEMENT. IT SEEMS TO US THAT TOO MUCH EMPHASIS ON EVENTS AT BELGRADE, ON WHO DID WHAT TO WHOM THERE, MAY TEND TO SOUND DEFENSIVE AS WELL AS TO CONFUSE THE PUBLIC. WE WOULD SUGGEST A CONCISE PAPER ORGANIZED AS FOLLOWS: (A) WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE; (B) WHAT WAS ACHIEVED AT BELGRADE;
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AND (C) IF NECESSARY AS BACKGROUND, AN ACCOUNT OF EVENTS AT BELGRADE.

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3. OUR SPECIFIC COMMENTS ON TEXT (REF A) FOLLOW:
A. INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH. THE STATEMENT IN THE SECOND SENTENCE THAT THE MEETING "WAS NOT AN INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATION AS SUCH" MAY BE CONFUSING TO THE PUBLIC; WE

SUGGEST IT BE DROPPED.

- B. PARAGRAPH B. SUB-PARA 6, HUMAN RIGHTS PRINCIPLE, SHOULD BE MOVED TO TOP OF LIST OF WESTERN NEW PROPOSALS TO HIGHLIGHT US INTEREST IN THIS SUBJECT, AND TO PUT IT IN FINAL ACT ORDER AS ARE THE REST OF THE ITEMS LISTED.
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- C. PARAGRAPH B. IN SUB-PARA 4, SUGGEST ELABORATION ON "REDUCTION OF CURRENCY EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS", AN ISSUE WHICH MAY NOT BE UNDERSTOOD BY THE PUBLIC.
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- D. PARAGRAPH E. GIVEN FRENCH RESERVATIONS ON CBMS AT BELGRADE, WE FIND LANGUAGE ON ALLIED COOPERATION IN SUB-PARA 2 RATHER STRONG--"CLOSE COOPERATION AMONG NATO COUNTRIES DEVELOPED FURTHER." WE SUGGEST REVISION OF THIS SENTENCE AS FOLLOWS: "CLOSE COOPERATION AMONG NATO COUNTRIES CONTINUED AT BELGRADE". WE WOULD DROP WORD "FULL" FROM LAST SENTENCE IN SUB-PARA. THERE SHOULD ALSO BE MENTION OF NINE/FIFTEEN COOPERATION.
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- E. PARAGRAPH G. DROP WORD "EUROPEAN" FROM PHRASE "35 EUROPEAN STATES".
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- F. PARAGRAPH H. THIS PARAGRAPH DEALS WITH CSCE AND DETENTE. AS THE PUBLIC PERCEIVES THE BELGRADE MEETING ENDING IN GENERAL EAST-WEST DISCORD, A QUESTION LIKELY TO BE ASKED IS: WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE RESULTS

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OF THE BELGRADE MEETING FOR THE OVERALL DETENTE PROCESS?
SUGGEST LANGUAGE BE DEVELOPED TO MEET THIS POINT.
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